WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUSTIONS

Complaints against officials of Oil Selection Boards

2833. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints against the Chairman and Membres of various Oil Selection Board, during the last three years;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to streamline the working of OSBs and prevent corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Complaints have been received from time to time against the functioning of some of the Oil Selection Boards alleging irregularities in the selections made by them. Accordingly, the tenure of the Chairman and the Members of the undermentioned OSBs was terminated by the Government owing to their unsatisfactory performance:

Bihar
Haryana
Himachal Pradesh
Karnataka
Kerala & Lakshadweep
Maharashtra, Goa Daman & Diu
Punjab
Rajasthan
Tamilnadu, Pondicherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Uttar Pradesh

In addition to the termination, instructions have been issued to the OSBs from time to time so as to ensure fair selection on merits.

Electricity Distribution by IRC

2834. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have rejected the proposal of the Central Government to vest powers of licensing corporates entering into electricity distribution to IRC;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any further steps in view of the stiff opposition by the State Governments on the formation of IRC; and

, (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Economic Package for Himachal Pradesh

2835. SHRI SUSHIL BARONGPA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMMEIMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has announced economic package for special category States in the recent, past; and

(b) if so, the reasons the Himachal Pradesh not being considered for such a package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) No, Sir. Prime Minister has not announced economic package for all special category States. However, in his recent visit to North Eastern Region and Jammu & Kashmir, certain development programmes as announced are annexed *(See* below).

(b) No announcement of any economic package for Himachal Pradesh has been made by P.M. so far.

Statement

New Initiatives for North Eastern Region	Economic Package for J & K
(a) Commission to determine Gaps in Infrastructure and backlog in Basic Minimum Services	(1) Construction of Udhampur-Baramulla Railway Line
(b) Priority for creation of Employment Opportunities for Educated Unemployed	(2) Mughal Road
(c) North-East Sub-Plan in All Central Ministries/Departments	(3) Construction of Dulhasti Hydel Project
(d) Visits and Intensive Monitoring by Central Ministers/Secretaries	(4) URI Hydel Project
(e) Full funding of the on-going Projects	(5) Debt Relief to Borrowers in J&K
(f) Comprehensive Water Management and Flood Control Measures	(6) Special Central Assistance of Rs. 352 crores
(g) Full coverage through Employment Assurance Scheme	(7) Grant of Rs. 6.60 crores for Improvement of Camps in Jammu for Migrants
(h) Extension of Border Roads/ BADP Programme	(8) Setting up of Convention/ Conference Centre at Leh
(i) Full coverage of North East through Telecommunication and Electronic Media	(9) Development of Kargil Airport
(j) Improved Credit Flow to North East	(10) Upgradation of Status of Jammu to B-2 city
(k) New Industrial Policy	
(1) Decentralisation	
(m) Development of Tourism	
(n) Strengtening of Central Agencies	
(o) Export Policy	
(p) Measures for Control of Narcotics and AIDS	
(q) Improvement in Railway Services	

Foreign Assistance to projects run by SIRO

2836. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) how much foreign assistance could be secured during the last three years for completion of projects by various Scientific and Industrial Research Organisations (SIRO) under the Ministry;

(b) what are the projects which were taken up with the foreign assistance; and

(c) what was the actual expenditure on new projects by the Scientific and Industrial Research Organisations?